## Message Text

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**ACTION NEA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 NEAE-00

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03

H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00

PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /079 W ------ 067294

O 071252Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2207

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EINV, ETRD, CE, MV

SUBJ: SRI LANKA GSP ELIGIBILITY

REF: (A) STATE 27783, (B) STATE 23054, (C) COLOMBO 322

1. IN RESPONSE REF (A) AND PARA 4 REF (B) WE CONFIRM THAT ALL U.S. COMPANY CLAIMS ARISING FROM GSL 1963 NATIONALIZATION ACTIONS WERE COMPLETELY SETTLED IN 1966 TO SATISFACTION ALL PARTIES. WITH RESPECT 1970 NATIONALIZATION OF ESSO BUNKERING FACILITIES, GSL PUBLISHED IN 1973 SPECIFIC ACT PROVIDING FOR NEGOTIATION OF COMPENSATION CLAIMS. UNDER PROVISIONS THIS LEGISLATION ESSO REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS WITH GSL REPRESENTATIVES.

WE HAVE MADE LOW KEY REPRESENTATIONS TO APPROPRIATE GSL OFFICIALS TO ENCOURAGE MUTALLY SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT OF ESSO CLAIMS. ESSO REPRESENTATIVE WAS LAST IN COLOMBO IN MID-JANUARY AND IS EXPECTED TO RETURN LATER IN FEBRUARY TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS.

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2. IN REF (C) AMBASSADOR DESCRIBES GSL CONTINUING

DISAGREEMENT WITH PFIZER'S WHOLLY-OWNED PHARMACEUTICAL SUBSIDIARY HERE. WE PRESUME FAILURE TO RESOLVE THIS DISPUTE COULD RAISE ISSUE OF ACTIONS "EXPROPRIATORY IN EFFECT" SUMMARIZED PARA 5 REF (B). AT THIS JUNCTURE WE BELIEVE GSL AND PFIZER CAN WORK OUT REASONABLY SATISFACTORY UNDERSTANDING. WE DO NOT BELIEVE DISPUTE SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS FALLING WITHIN TRADE ACT CLAUSES WHICH COULD RAISE QUESTION OF SRI LANKA GSP ELIGIBILITY.

- 3. IN RESPONSE PARA 6 REF (B), DURING LAST TWO WEEKS, GSL TRADE OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH TRADE ACT AND MTN HAVE BEEN ABSORBED WITH ANNUAL GSL/PRC TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. WITH PRC TEAM GONE, WE ARE ARRANGING EXTENDED MEETING, OR SEVERAL IF REQUIRED, TO FAMILIARIZE GSL WITH TRADE ACT PROVISIONS AND GUIDANCE RECEIVED SO FAR.
- 4. SINCE THERE HAVE BEEN NO KNOWN U.S. INVESTMENTS IN MALDIVES, QUESTION IS MOOT. VAN HOLLEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: NATIONALIZATION, CLAIMS, DEBT REPAYMENTS

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Subject: SRI LANKA GSP ELIGIBILITY TAGS: EINV, ETRD, CE, MV To: STATE

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